REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the following Remarks is earnestly requested. Applicant has cancelled claims 4-5, 7, 9, 11-12, 14-17, 19-20, 24, 27-31, 33, 36-37, 39-42, 45 and 47-60. Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 18, 21-23, 25-26, 32, 34-35, 38, 43-44 and 46 are currently pending.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-15, 17-29, 31, 33-40, 42-43, 46-51, 54-55, 58 and 60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,627,829 to Gleeson et al. Applicant has amended independent 1, 21 and 25. Applicant respectfully disagrees that Gleeson anticipates the claims as presented. The present invention is directed to a method and apparatus of reducing the overhead of the wireless link by the elimination on one side of the wireless link of protocol headers from the wireless link. Applicants achieve this by operating in the socket abstraction layer and removing socket information contained in that layer. As claimed, a communication device receives a message in the socket abstraction layer containing destination information for the message but not containing information identifying the communication device. That message is translated into a connection request, which identifies the communication device, and the connection request is routed to the destination. A header is generated in the socket abstraction layer that uses the missing socket information that identifies the second communication device. The virtual connection is created while removing information including destination information from the header. This information is removed as it is no longer needed to make the connection with the destination. This information is not replaced by any other information and therefore reduces the size of the packet and operates in the socket abstraction layer.

Gleeson discloses using a transport protocol Gleeson discloses leaving the full standard protocol layers left unmodified and still resident in the two endnodes performing the communication. Gleeson achieves its objectives by compressing the transport and network protocol layer headers through the removal of redundant or static information found within those headers.

Gleeson discloses traditional compression techniques. Gleeson does not discuss removing information in the socket abstraction layer as required by independent claims 1, 21 and 25. Instead of using traditional compression techniques, the present invention operates in the socket abstraction layer by removing information not needed to communicate between a first communication device and a second communication device and the second communication device and a destination while maintaining the connection between the first communication device and the destination. In other words, the claimed invention breaks up the end-to-end communication discussed in Gleeson into two separate connections. Based on the differences between the subject matter claimed in independent claims 1, 21, and 25, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not anticipated by Gleeson and request that the rejection under Section 102(b) be withdrawn. In addition, applicants request that the Section 102(b) rejections to pending claims 2-3, 6, 10, 13, 18, 21-23, 26, 34-35, 38, 43 and 46 be withdrawn as these claims depend on the amended independent claims.

The Examiner also rejected claims 8, 16, 32, 41, 44, 45, 52, 53, 56, 57 and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gleeson in view of United States Patent Application No. 2002/0091860 to Kalliokulju. As stated above, applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 25. With respect to claims 8, 16, 32, 41, 44, the Examiner states that Kalliokulju packet convergence protocol (PDCP) context. Kalliokulju does not disclose making a connection as claimed by applicants. In particular, Kalliokulju does not disclose having headers with missing information concerning the destination of the desired connection. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Gleeson and Kalliokulju does not teach or suggest the present invention. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under Section 103(a) be withdrawn.

As the applicants have overcome all substantive rejections and objections given by the Examiner and have complied with all requests properly presented by the Examiner, the applicants contend that this Amendment, with the above discussion, overcomes the Examiner's objections to and rejections of the specification pending claims. Therefore, the applicants respectfully solicit allowance of the application. If the Examiner is of the opinion that any issues regarding the status of the claims remain after this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative to expedite resolution of the matter.

Respectfully submitted, Robert Battin, et al.

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